

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, US, JA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: JAPAN CHARTER QUOTA

REF: STATE 35447

SUMMARY: REITERATING ARGUMENTS PUT FORWARD IN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS THIS ISSUE, AND EMPHASIZING SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH USG VIEWS MATTER, E/ MIN URGED JCAB DIRECTOR GENERAL UCHIMURA TO RECONSIDER OUR REQUESTS TO PERMIT CARRYOVER TO 1973 OF 15 CHARTER FLIGHTS UNUSED IN 1972 AND TO REMOVE RESTRICTION LIMITING JAPAN- ORIGIN CHARTER FLIGHTS TO ONE- THIRD OF TOTAL CHARTER QUOTA. UCHIMURA PROMISED SERIOUS CONSIDERATION OF US REQUEST. END SUMMARY.

1. ON APRIL 4 E/ MIN AND E/ COUNS CALLED ON JCAB DIRECTOR GENERAL UCHIMURA TO DISCUSS CHARTER QUOTA PROBLEM. MEETING ALSO ATTENDED BY GOTO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND FOR SHORT TIME BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL TERAJ. E/ MIN RESTATED ARGUMENTS PREVIOUSLY MADE IN SUPPORT OUR REQUEST FOR RELAXATION JCAB RESTRICTIONS ON CHARTER OPERATIONS, EMPHASIZING GROWTH OF MARKET FOR LOW- COST MASS TRAVEL, EXTREMELY LOW PERCENTAGE IN US- JAPAN TRAFFIC OF CHARTER TRAVEL IN RELATION TO SCHEDULED SERVICES, AND FACT THAT LIBERALIZATION OF CHARTER QUOTA SYSTEM WOULD BE WELCOME

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GESTURE IN CONTEXT US- JAPANESE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE BOP PROBLEM.

2. JAPANESE OFFICIALS RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CHANGE PREVIOUS POSITION SINCE (A) CHARTER QUOTA ISSUE IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF OVERALL PROBLEM RELATING TO US/ JAPAN AVIATION RELATIONS AND CANNOT APPROPRIATELY BE CONSIDERED IN ISOLATION; (B) JCAB IS CONTINUING TO STUDY QUESTION OF POSSIBLE NEW CHARTER PRINCIPLES FOR PACIFIC BASIN COUNTRIES OF TYPE DEVELOPED FOR NORTH ATLANTIC; (C) JCAB ALSO STUDYING IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT CURRENCY REALIGNMENTS ON AIR FARES GENERALLY; AND (D) JCAB STILL FACED WITH PROBLEM OF CONGESTION AT HANEDA AIRPORT.

3. NEVERTHELESS, UCHIMURA SAID JCAB WOULD QTE SERIOUSLY CONSIDER UNQTE E/ MIN' S REQUEST. E/ MIN STRESSED THAT SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE LEAD TIME FOR PROMOTING CHARTERS AND THEREFORE NEED TO KNOW JCAB' S FINAL DECISION ASAP. UCHIMURA EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING THIS POINT BUT SAID HE STILL NOT IN POSITION TO GIVE ANY INDICATION WHEN DECISION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. SHOESMITH

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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